

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01

ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01

STR-05 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 EUR-12 IOE-00 AF-10

EA-10 NEA-10 /131 W

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P R 121645Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7819

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 4266

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: ECON, EGEN, UNCTAD, HO

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: COMMODITIES - UNCTAD COMMON

FUND MEETING NOVEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 2

REF: STATE 191312

1. IT WAS APPARENT FROM EMBOFF DISCUSSION WITH VICE-MINISTER OF ECONOMY, RENE ARDON MATUTE, THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS IS AT A VERY EARLY STAGE OF PREPARING FOR PARTICIPATION IN SUBJECT MEETING. THE VICE MINISTER'S COMMENTS RELATING TO QUESTIONS RAISED PARAGRAPH 3 OF REFTEL WERE AS FOLLOWS:

A. MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND CENTRAL BANK OFFICERS FIRST WOULD REVIEW ECLA AND UNCTAD MATERIALS ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS, BUFFER STOCKS AND COMMON FUND. GOH POSITION WOULD THEN BE ARRIVED AT IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS. HE INDICATED THAT STAFF OF THE SECRETARIAT FOR CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION (SIECA) WOULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN INFLUENCING GOH AND POSSIBLY OTHER SUB-REGIONAL GOVERNMENT POSITIONS.
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B. GOH AMBASSADOR IN SWITZERLAND, COLLAR VALLE, AND POSSIBLY OFFICERS FROM MINECON AND CENTRAL BANK WOULD COMPRISE ITS DELEGATION. INSTRUCTIONS NORMALLY ARE NON-SPECIFIC AND GENERAL. HONDURAS WOULD WORK IN CONSORT WITH CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLEAGUES.

C. WHILE HONDURAS IS INTERESTED IN COMMON FUND PROPOSALS, ITS INFLUENCE IN GROUP OF 77 IS NOMINAL. IT HAS, HOWEVER, EXERTED SOME LEADERSHIP AMONG SMALLER, SUGAR PRODUCING COUNTRIES (LESS THAN 100,000 TONS ANNUAL EXPORTS). DEPARTMENT'S EXPERT MIGHT MORE PRODUCTIVELY MAKE AN EARLY VISIT (WITHIN 20 DAYS) TO SIECA WHERE POSITIONS OF 5 AREA COUNTRIES COULD BE INFLUENCED.

2. AS ONE OF THE LESSER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND A SIGNIFICANT EXPORTER OF ONLY ONE COMMODITY (COFFEE) FOR WHICH STABILIZING ARRANGEMENTS ARE UNDER STUDY, HONDURAS HAS ONLY A SMALL STAKE IN THE NOVEMBER MEETING. IT CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE MORE SUPPORTIVE OF US PROPOSALS, HOWEVER, IF THEY CONTAIN SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR SMALLER NATIONS, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO EXEMPTIONS FROM FINANCIAL OR STOCKPILING COMMITMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION.
BARTCH

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Message Attributes

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